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EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Group Art Unit: 2426
Docket No.: SONYSU 3.3-086

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:	
Inoue et al.	
Application No.: 09/600,003	Group Art Unit: 2426
Filed: July 10, 2000	Examiner: M. I. Alam
For: RECEIVING APPARATUS OF DIGITAL BROADCASTING AND DISPLAY METHOD OF RECORDING PROGRAM ASSOCIATED INFORMATION	

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 22, 2009, finally rejecting claims 52, 58-67, and 72, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1-30. (cancelled)

31. (withdrawn) A receiving apparatus for receiving a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed, comprising:

a decoder for decoding said received digital broadcasting signal;

a digital interface for receiving a transport stream from an external reproducing apparatus having both analog and digital recording and reproducing modes;

a format converter circuit for outputting the decoded broadcasting signal from said receiving apparatus in a format for display on a monitor to a user; and

a display processing circuit for displaying control panel information for allowing station selection and recording and reproduction control of a program recorded on a recording medium loaded in said external reproducing apparatus by a predetermined format,

wherein when said external recording apparatus is in the analog reproducing mode, said display processing circuit prevents said format converter circuit from outputting the decoded broadcasting signal to the user, and when said external recording apparatus is in the analog recording mode, said display processing circuit prevents said format converter circuit from outputting the decoded broadcasting signal from said format converter circuit only during the displaying of said control panel information; and

wherein when said external recording apparatus is in the digital recording mode, said format converter circuit displays the decoded broadcasting signal whether or not the control panel information is displayed.

32. (withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein an alarm message is displayed to the user when said display processing circuit prevents the display of the received digital broadcasting signal to the user.

33. (withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said alarm message indicates that said external recording apparatus is under analog reproduction and that the digital broadcasting signal cannot be displayed.

34. (withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the analog recording mode includes a stop mode, a recording pause mode and record mode.

35. (withdrawn) A display method of a receiving apparatus of a digital broadcasting, comprising:

receiving in the receiving apparatus a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed;

decoding in the receiving apparatus said received digital broadcasting signal;

receiving in the receiving apparatus a transport stream from an external reproducing apparatus through a digital interface, the external reproducing apparatus having both analog and digital recording and reproducing modes;

displaying an alarm message during a recording mode of the external reproducing apparatus indicating that a new station of the digital broadcasting signal cannot be selected during display of a control panel normally allowing a user to select a new station, during (i) digital recording, and (ii) analog recording modes of stop, recording pause and record, by the external reproducing apparatus; and

displaying an alarm message upon attempted reproduction from the external recording apparatus, through the receiving apparatus, of a program recorded in the analog mode when the external reproducing apparatus is in the digital reproduction mode.

36-40. (cancelled)

41. (withdrawn) A receiving apparatus for receiving a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed, comprising:

a decoder for decoding said received digital broadcasting signal;

a digital interface for receiving a transport stream from an external reproducing apparatus having both analog and digital recording and reproducing modes;

a format converter circuit for outputting the decoded broadcasting signal from said receiving apparatus in a format for display on a monitor to a user; and

a display processing circuit for displaying control panel information for allowing station selection and recording and reproduction control of a program recorded on a recording medium loaded in said external reproducing apparatus by a predetermined format;

wherein when said external recording apparatus is in the digital recording mode, said format converter circuit displays the decoded broadcasting signal whether or not the control panel information is displayed; and

wherein when said external recording apparatus is in the analog recording mode, said display processing circuit prevents said format converter circuit from outputting the decoded

broadcasting signal from said format converter circuit only during the displaying of said control panel information.

42. (withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 41, wherein an alarm message is displayed to the user when said display processing circuit prevents the display of the received digital broadcasting signal to the user.

43. (withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 42, wherein said alarm messages indicates that said external recording apparatus is under analog reproduction and that the digital broadcasting signal cannot be displayed.

44. (withdrawn) An apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the analog recording mode includes a stop mode, a recording pause mode and record mode.

45-51. (cancelled)

52. (currently amended) A receiving apparatus for receiving a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed, comprising:

a decoder for decoding said received digital broadcasting signal;

a digital interface for receiving the transport stream from an external reproducing apparatus;

a CPU programmed for retrieving information associated with a program recorded on a recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus from a memory in said reproducing apparatus; and

a display processing circuit for displaying the information associated with the program recorded on the recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus by a predetermined format,

wherein the decoder is (i) for determining whether the transport stream corresponding to the program recorded on the recording medium reproduced by said reproducing apparatus and received through said digital interface is decodable by said decoder, and (ii) for generating decodability data indicating a result of determining whether the transport stream is decodable by said decoder;

wherein in the case where the decodability data indicates the transport stream reproduced by said reproducing apparatus and received through said digital interface is determined not able to be decoded in said decoder, said display processing circuit performs a display process so as to display a message based on the decodability data and showing that the program recorded on the recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus is recorded in a recording mode in which said transport stream corresponding to the program recorded on the recording medium cannot be decoded by said receiving apparatus.

53. (withdrawn) A receiving apparatus for receiving a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed, comprising:

a decoder for decoding said received digital broadcasting signal;

a digital interface for receiving the transport stream from an external reproducing apparatus, the external reproducing apparatus having both analog and digital recording and reproducing modes; and

a display processing circuit for displaying an alarm message during a recording mode of the external reproducing apparatus indicating that a new station of the digital broadcasting signal cannot be selected during display of a control panel normally allowing a user to select a new station, during (i) digital recording, and (ii) analog recording modes of stop, recording pause and record, by said external reproducing apparatus, the display processing circuit further displaying an alarm message upon attempted reproduction from the external recording apparatus, through the receiving apparatus, of a program recorded in the analog mode when the external reproducing apparatus is in the digital reproduction mode.

54-57. (cancelled).

58. (currently amended) A receiving apparatus for receiving a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed, comprising:

a decoder for decoding said received digital broadcasting signal;

a digital interface for receiving a transport stream from a reproducing apparatus; and

a display processing circuit for displaying information associated with a program recorded in a predetermined compression format on a recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus,

wherein the decoder is (i) for determining whether the transport stream corresponding to the program recorded on the recording medium reproduced by said reproducing apparatus and received through said digital interface is decodable by said decoder, and (ii) for generating decodability data indicating a

result of determining whether the transport stream is decodable by said decoder;

wherein in the case where the decodability data indicates the transport stream reproduced by said reproducing apparatus and received through said digital interface is determined not able to be decoded in said decoder, said display processing circuit performs a display process so as to display a message based on the decodability data and showing that the program recorded on the recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus is recorded in a compression mode in which said transport stream corresponding to the program recorded on the recording medium cannot be decoded by said receiving apparatus.

59. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 58, wherein said information associated with said program includes at least one of a channel number of the program, a program name, a genre, a date of the recording, and a recording time.

60. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 58, wherein said information associated with said program includes recording position information of the program on the recording medium.

61. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 58, wherein said information associated with said program is overlapped to a reproduction signal from said reproducing apparatus and displayed.

62. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 58, wherein said information associated with said program includes information of a recording mode of said recorded program.

63. (currently amended) A receiving apparatus for receiving a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed, comprising:

a decoder for decoding said received digital broadcasting signal;

a digital interface for receiving the transport stream from an external reproducing apparatus; and

a display processing circuit for displaying information associated with a program recorded in a predetermined transport stream format on a recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus,

wherein the decoder is (i) for determining whether the transport stream corresponding to the program recorded on the recording medium reproduced by said reproducing apparatus and received through said digital interface is decodable by said decoder, and, (ii) for generating decodability data indicating a result of determining whether the transport stream is decodable by said decoder;

wherein in the case where the decodability data indicates the transport stream reproduced by said reproducing apparatus and received through said digital interface is determined not able to be decoded in said decoder, said display processing circuit performs a display process so as to display a message based on the decodability data and indicating that the program recorded on the recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus is recorded in a format wherein said transport stream

corresponding to the program recorded on the recording medium cannot be decoded by said receiving apparatus.

64. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 63, wherein said information associated with said program includes at least one of a channel number of the program, a program name, a genre, a date of the recording, and a recording time.

65. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 63, wherein said information associated with said program includes recording position information of the program on the recording medium.

66. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 63, wherein said information associated with said program is overlapped to a reproduction signal from said reproducing apparatus and displayed.

67. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 63, wherein said information associated with said program includes information of a recording mode of said recorded program.

68. (withdrawn) A display method of recording program associated information in a receiving apparatus of a digital broadcasting, comprising:

receiving a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed;

decoding said received digital broadcasting signal;

receiving a transport stream from an external reproducing apparatus through a digital interface and having both analog and digital recording and reproducing modes;

outputting the decoded broadcasting signal from said receiving apparatus by a format converter circuit within the receiving apparatus in a format for display on a monitor to a user;

displaying control panel information for allowing station selection and recording and reproduction control of a program recorded on a recording medium loaded in said external reproducing apparatus by a predetermined format;

wherein when said external recording apparatus is in the analog reproducing mode, the display of the decoded broadcasting signal to the user is prevented by the format converter circuit, and when said external recording apparatus is in the analog recording mode, the display of the decoded broadcasting signal is prevented only during the displaying of said control panel information by the format converter circuit; and

wherein when said external recording apparatus is in the digital recording mode, the digital broadcasting signal is displayed by the format converter circuit whether or not the control panel information is displayed.

69. (withdrawn) A display method of recording program associated information in a receiving apparatus of a digital broadcasting, comprising:

receiving a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed;

decoding said received digital broadcasting signal;

receiving a transport stream from an external reproducing apparatus having both analog and digital recording and reproducing modes through a digital interface;

outputting the decoded broadcasting signal from said receiving apparatus by a format converter circuit within the receiving apparatus in a format for display on a monitor to a user;

displaying control panel information for allowing station selection and recording and reproduction control of a program recorded on a recording medium loaded in said external reproducing apparatus by a predetermined format;

wherein when said external recording apparatus is in the digital recording mode, the digital broadcasting signal is displayed by the format converter circuit whether or not the control panel information is displayed; and

wherein when said external recording apparatus is in the analog recording mode, the display of the decoded broadcasting signal is prevented only during the displaying of said control panel information by the format convert circuit.

70. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 69, wherein an alarm message is displayed to the user when the display of the received digital broadcasting signal to the user is prevented.

71. (cancelled)

72. (currently amended) A display method of recording program associated information in a receiving apparatus of a digital broadcasting, comprising:

receiving a digital broadcasting signal constructed by a transport stream in which video data and audio data have been compressed and multiplexed;

decoding said received digital broadcasting signal;

receiving the transport stream from an external reproducing apparatus through a digital interface;

reading out information associated with a program recorded on a recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus from a memory in said reproducing apparatus;

displaying the information associated with the program recorded on the recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus by a predetermined format; ~~and~~

determining whether the transport stream corresponding to the program recorded on the recording medium reproduced by said reproducing apparatus and received through the digital interface is decodable; ~~,~~ and

generating decodability data indicating a result of determining whether the transport stream is decodable,

wherein in said displaying the information, when the decodability data indicates the transport stream reproduced in said reproducing apparatus and received through the digital interface is determined not able to be decodable in said determining step, a display process is performed so as to display a message based on the decodability data and showing that the program recorded on the recording medium loaded in said reproducing apparatus is recorded in a recording mode in which the transport stream corresponding to the program recorded on the recording medium cannot be decoded.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In light of the above amendments and remarks to follow, entry of this amendment and reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 52, 58, 63 and 72 have been amended. Claims 52, 58-67 and 72 are pending in this application. Claims 52, 58-67, and 72 are pending in this application.

Claims 52, 58-67 and 72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 7,224,886 to Akamatsu et al. (Akamatsu) and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0018638 to Sparks et al. (Sparks), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,990,940 to Hashimoto et al. (Hashimoto), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,621,579 (Yuen '579). In addition, claims 61 and 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Akamatsu and Sparks, and further in view of Hashimoto and further in view of Yuen and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,147,715 to Yuen et al. (Yuen '715). Further, claims 62 and 67 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Akamatsu and Sparks, and further in view of Hashimoto, and further in view of Yuen '579, and further in view of Yuen '715 in further view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0208482 to Suga et al. (Suga).

The present claims, as amended, now recite that "the decoder is (i) for determining whether the transport stream corresponding to the program recorded on the recording medium reproduced by said reproducing apparatus and received through said digital interface is decodable by said decoder, and (ii) for generating decodability data indicating a result of determining whether the transport stream is decodable by said decoder." In addition, the present claims now recite that, where the decodability data indicates the transport stream is determined "not able to be decoded," a message is displayed

based on the decodabilty data and showing that a program corresponding to the transport stream is recorded in a recording mode in which the transport stream cannot be decoded by the claimed receiving apparatus including the decoder. (Emphasis added; independent claims 52, 58 and 63; independent claim 72 contains a similar limitation.)

As discussed in the application, a decoder, such as of a receiving apparatus of claim 1, may determine from a transport stream received at the apparatus whether the transport stream is decodeable, for example, whether the transport stream is recorded in a recording mode, such as MPEG, decodable by the decoder. The decoder furthermore may generate decodability data, which indicates a result of the determination by the decoder whether the transport stream is decodable by the decoder. In the case where the decodability data indicates that the transport stream is determined not able to be decoded by the decoder, a message is displayed consistent with the decodability data indicating that the received transport stream has been determined not able to be decoded by the decoder. The message displayed based on the decodability data is to show that a program to which the transport stream corresponds is recorded in a recording mode in which the transport stream cannot be decoded by the decoder, thereby notifying a user of the receiving apparatus of the reason that the program of the received transport stream cannot be displayed using the receiver. (See specification, for example, at p. 30, ln. 25-pg. 31, ln. 11 and pp. 53-54).

The Examiner admitted that the applied portions of Akamatsu and Sparks do not disclose displaying a message to show that a program is recorded on a recording medium in a recording mode in which the "transport stream" corresponding to the program "cannot be decoded by said receiving apparatus," as required by the claimed invention. In addition, the applied portions of

Akamatsu and Sparks do not appear to disclose or suggest a decoder for determining whether the transport stream is decodeable by the decoder, and furthermore for generating "decodability data indicating a result of determining whether the transport stream is decodable by said decoder," as now also required by the claimed invention.

Hashimoto and Yuen '579, alone or in combination, do not cure the deficiencies of Akamatsu or Sparks with respect to the requirements of the claimed invention. In contrast to the Examiner's statements, the applied portions of Hashimoto appear to disclose adjusting operation of a video monitor for display of an input video signal, and displaying a message indicating that an input video signal, which apparently is decodeable, "does not conform to the display specifications" of the video monitor, upon determination that the decodeable input signal does not have scanning frequencies acceptable to provide for display on the monitor. Thus, Hashimoto is not concerned with, and does not appear to disclose or suggest, generating decodability data indicating a result of determining from the transport stream whether the transport stream is decodable by the decoder, and displaying a message based on the decodabiltiy data to show that a program is recorded in a recording mode in which the corresponding transport stream that is received cannot be decoded by the receiving apparatus, as required by the claimed invention.

In addition, although the applied portions of Yuen appear to disclose displaying information read from a tape or a memory (such as RAM or SRAM), nowhere do the applied portions of Yuen appear to disclose or suggest a decoder to generate "decodability data indicating a result of determining [by the decoder] whether the transport stream is decodable by said decoder," as required by the claimed invention.

Thus, Applicants request that the rejection of the pending

claims be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: February 22, 2009

Respectfully submitted,
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